

R. Soldier A
 L E T T E R
 FROM A
 S O U L D I E R
 TO THE
 C O M M O N S
 O F
 E N G L A N D,

Occasioned by an ADDRESS
 Now carrying on by the P R O T E S T A N T S
 in I R E L A N D, in order to take
 away the F U N D appropriated for
 the Payment of the A R R E A R S of the
 A R M Y.

L O N D O N,
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A Letter from a Souldier
 TO THE
Commons of England,
Occasioned by an ADDRESS, &c.

BUT before I examine it particularly, I will take notice of some Discourse I entertained with one of the principal Men who promoted it, who endeavoured to prevail with me to sign it. I told him this might be construed an Appeal to the King against his Commons, without whose Consent they could have no Relief, and therefore I thought it very imprudent to give them so just occasion of Offence: That I believed it would not be very acceptable to his Majesty, and I was sure not agreeable to so many Loyal Expressions in it, to endeavour to sow any Dissension betwixt Him and his People, at a Time too when there is need of their greatest Unanimity. Besides, I thought his Majesty had Matters of too great Importance in agitation, to busy himself about their trifling Grievances; and therefore it was my Opinion that it would be most adviseable for them to apply to the House to redress the Severities (if any) in the Act; and if there were any Fault in the Administration, to exhibit Articles against the Trustees. I was answered, that this would be owning the Right of the Parliament to govern *Ireland*; and that this is the true Reason, appears from the whole Cast and Turn of the Address, where in three several Paragraphs their Dependance is expressly limited to the Crown of *England*, as it were on purpose to exclude the Lords and Commons from having any thing to do with them. And I assure your Honours, these are the deepest Politicks of our Climate.

I wonder at these thoughtless Statesmen, who can imagine that the People of *England*, who have conquered and reduced *Ireland* in above forty Wars at their own Expence, and with a loss of near a Million of their Countrymen, that have almost peopled the Country, and have and must continually support it with their Fleets and Armys, should have no other Aim in this, than to give a few of their Officers good Estates, and people a new Country with their Fellow Subjects, who from that time were to be Independent, and not subject to the Legislative Power of *England*, but should be a distinct State governed intirely by its own Laws, and might carry on what Trades and Manufactures they pleased, even to the Ruin of their Mother Country. This is a Conceit worthy of the Place from whence it comes: If these Gentlemen had any experience in the Affairs of the World, or were acquainted with History, they would know that no Nation ever sent out their own People (which are their Strength and Treasure) either to plant Colonies, or in Armys to conquer Countrys, but for the benefit of their Mother Country, who have always made them subservient to it; and the Adventurers have thought themselves sufficiently encouraged, in having Estates and other Advantages given them in the Colonies and Conquests, without pretending to an Independency.

Some of these worthy Persons say that *Ireland* was not Conquered by the Parliament of *England*, but by the King, to whom they own Subjection: Which is as much as to say that a King of *England*, at the Head of an *English* Army paid by *English* Mony, can Conquer for himself and not for the Kingdom, which is an Absurdity I shall not think reasonable to answer.

Others say they don't affect an Independency of *England*, for they own they are dependent upon the Crown; which, whether they know it or no, is no dependance at all upon *England*, for it amounts to no more than their having the same King, and so has *Scotland*, *Breda*, the Principality of *Orange*; and in this sense *England* may be called Dependent on *Ireland*. There neither is nor can in nature be any Dependency of one Nation properly speaking on another, unless it be subject to its Laws, else it lies in their Power to be independent when they please. Suppose the King and Parliament of *Ireland* repeal *Poyning's* Law, where then is their Dependency? What if King *James* when he was upon the Throne had by the Consent of a Popish Parliament in *Ireland* alienated the Kingdom, must all the Blood and Treasure we have spent there be quite thrown away?

Well,

Well, but the worst Objection comes at last, which is that *Ireland* was never Conquered at all ; and this is a home one, though I dare say never heard of in *England* till Mr. *Molineaux* broacht it. And who do we hear it from now ? not from the *Irish* and old Proprietors, for they both see and feel they have been Conquered with a Witness ; but this Objection comes from your own Countrymen, whose Ancestors have been sent over in your Armys to subdue the Natives, and rewarded with great Possessions, who have grown Rich and Powerful under your Protection, and lately when they were driven out of their Country by a Force they were not able to resist, were hospitably entertained by you, and by your Power restored to their Estates and Religion ; and these very Men, as they have made use of your Power to subdue the *Irish*, they now set up a Title in the *Irish* against your Authority, and would assume to themselves all the Advantage of the Conquests you have made.

They must be very happy Men who can have so Comfortable an Imagination, and 'tis pity to deprive them of it.

Strange, that a small Colony not yet weaned from its Mothers Breasts, that can't subsist without its first Milk, should affect Designs of Empire ! But what greatness of Soul has produced in other Countrys, want of Thought does in them.

A Handful of People, beset with seven times the Number of *Irish* who are their mortal Enemies, yet to assume all things to themselves, and at the same time pretend to an Independency of *England*, against whose Power, and without whose Power they cannot subsist one moment !

But your Honours very well know your own Authority, you can compel their Obedience, and contemn their Scolding.

I remember a Story of *Oliver Cromwel*, when a Shentleman of *Wales* came up to Court to acquaint his Highness, one in the Country had spoken very disrespectfully of him, he first asked if he was a Man of any Consideration ; and being answered that he was a very insignificant Fellow, he then desired to know the Complaint, and after some Apology for the Indecency of speech, he was told that the Man said *his Highness might kiss his* ——— To which he replied, Go home and tell him that he may kiss mine.

Having given your Honours an account of the general Design of this Remonstrance, I will now examine it particularly, and shew it to be as false as it is ridiculous. The Title is as follows :

To the King's most excellent Majesty, The Humble Address of the Nobility, Justices of the Peace, Grand Jury, Clergy, Gentlemen, Freeholders of the County of Dublin, &c.

Here is a very Pompous Title, and one would think by it that the whole City of *Dublin*, or at least all of any Consequence in it had approved of this Address, and Signed it; but it is so much otherwise, that most of the Nobility, and Privy Counsellors, all the Bishops, Judges, and Eminent Lawyers, together with most of the considerable Gentry, have directly refused to Sign it; and many of those that have done it, excuse themselves by saying they did not know what it was, and that they Signed it meerly out of good Fellowship: and indeed they were so much put to it to get Hands, that amidst their Protestant Freeholders they were content to accept an *Irish* Papist, who unluckily had only a Lease for Years; which one of the Company being scandalized at, said he would not Sign it unless to the Words *Protestant Freeholders*, they would make this amendment, (*viz.*) *and one Papist*: This being the Case, was thought so reasonable by others of the Company, that a wise Debate arose about it; some were for adding the Words, and others for striking out his Name: And after a very solemn Dispute learnedly maintained on both sides, which was most respectful to his Majesty, an Interlineation or a Razure, the prevailing Opinion was to strike out his Name, and so it stands to this Day.

Next follows the Introduction.

YOUR Majesty's most Faithful and Loyal Subjects, the Protestants of this your Kingdom of Ireland, lying under such Pressures by means of the late Act of Resumption, and of the Execution thereof, that they apprehend the Ruin of the Protestants of your Kingdom, (who have all of them to the utmost of their Power, been most forward and Zealous for your Majesty's Interest, and instrumental in Reducing your Kingdom to its Dependance upon the Crown of England) must be the unavoidable Consequence of the Execution of that Act, do humbly fly to your Majesty's Protection, and pray that your Majesty, the Restorer of their Religion, Rights and Liberties, would once again be pleased to take their distressed Condition into your Princely Consideration; and by such Methods as to your Majesty shall seem most Expedient, and their present Circumstances, and the Justice of their Cause do require, apply suitable Remedies to the severe Burden under which they lye. The Deplorable

plorable Condition of very many Familys, who always have adhered firmly to the Interest of your Majesty and the Crown of England, and the General Discouragement that Act has given to the Protestant Interest of your Kingdom, constrain us with all Humility to lay before your Majesty that the Act being entirely framed and passed in England, the real truth of our late Circumstances could not be known : Hence we have reason to Complain.

All that is observable in this (besides its being by the whole Texture of it an Appeal to his Majesty against his People, and in two several places a Confinement of their Dependance to the Crown of England) is their setting forth the Kingdom to be in a Wretched and Deplorable Condition. One who knew nothing of the matter, would think by these and other Expressions scattered up and down in the Address, that without some immediate Cordial they were unavoidably gone. But I assure your Honours the Case is not so desperate, for the Kingdom is in a better Condition than before the War : The Rents of Lands are higher, and the Purchase dearer, the Produce of their Lands notwithstanding they have had plentiful Years is almost as dear as in England ; the Excise and Customs increase ; even since the Trustees came over the Rents have visibly improved ; and universally there is a greater appearance of Riches in their Coaches, Cloaths, Equipage and Furniture of their Houses. Nay, what is amazing to see, they have such a visible Increase of Riches and Power, that the very last Summer near three hundred Houses were built in Dublin upon new Foundations, a great many of which are fit for Persons of any Quality : And in all Probability as many more will be built next Year, great Quantities of Ground being laid out for that purpose. And at the time they thus abound in Wealth and Luxury, they pay no Taxes, besides the King's ordinary Revenue, when their Protectors are loaded with fifteen or sixteen Millions of Debts, and every Year pay Constant Land Taxes ; so little Reason have they to complain.

The First Article in the Address.

Viz. That the Persons who receive any Benefit or Favour by this Act, are the Papists of this Kingdom, and among them principally those who to the last opposed their Majesties Arms and Interest ; and besides many other particular Favours to Irish Papists, all those who by their Majesties Grace obtained Reversal of their Outlawries, have the benefit of those Reversals confirmed to them, and are by this Act restored, as well to their Estates as to their Blood, when most of the Grants made to the Protestants, are by the said Act reassumed.

The Seventh Article being of the same nature, I will insert it here, and answer them both together.

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The Seventh Article.

Viz. That the whole Scheme of the Act, and the manner of the execution of it, depresses and discountenances the Protestant Interest of this Kingdom, and encourages the Papists; of the danger of which we who have felt the Effects of it, must always be apprehensive, but more particularly now when the Papists throughout the whole Nation, by the Insolence of their Behaviour, show, That the acknowledging the pretended Prince of Wales by the French King, or some other Dependence, have raised their Expectation to a great height.

Observe, most Noble Senators, observe their Gratitude for your receiving them when they were Exiles, clothing them when they were Naked, and at last restoring them to their Estates at your own Expence. Now they charge you with favouring those very Papists you have vanquished, and particularly such who most opposed his Majesty's Arms. You are charged that you have made an Act, the whole Scheme of which was, to depress and discountenance the Protestant Religion, and encourage the Papists. But the best of it is, tho their Malice is great, their Power is small, and they are easily overthrown in their Groundwork: I challenge them to tell me one Part of the Act that distinguishes in favour of the Papists; and I do affirm, that the Act in no part of it confirms the Reversals of the Outlawries, tho they positively here assert, *That all those who by his Majesty's Grace, obtained the Reversal of their Outlawries, have the benefit of those Reversals confirmed to them, and are by this Act restored, as well to their Estates as to their Blood.* Nay, this Act is so far from favouring the Papists, that by the Clause that turns Estates Tail into Fees (as I have been informed by some of the Trustees) Twenty thousand Pounds *per Annum* is taken from them, and not one hundred from the Protestants; and I am apt to believe they lie under one Disadvantage further by this Act, that they do not know how to place their Mony so beneficially as formerly.

I am unwilling to believe that our Addressors meant nothing by these two Articles, and therefore think it probable that the *Favour* they have complain'd of is, that the Act has given the Papists, as well as Protestants, a Right to claim all that is due to them in Law or Equity; which is a *Favour* indeed, since many of them could not get it before, tho they honestly paid for it.

Pardon me (most Grave and Wise Representatives of your Country) that amidst the great Affairs which now imploy your Counsels, I presume to lay this humble Address at your Feet.

I am sensible neither my Education nor Profession qualify me for this sort of Combate; but as the dumb Man could not avoid speaking when he saw the Sword at his Father's Throat, so when not only that Provision appointed by your Honours for payment of our Arrears, is attempted to be rised from us, but your Justice is libelled, your Authority disowned; when you are addressed against to your King, and charged with favouring Popery, and discountenancing the Protestant Religion, and this for no other reason, but because you have applied the forfeited Lands of *Ireland* to the payment of those Debts contracted for the reducing it, and restoring those very Men to their Estates, who have now the audacious Insolence and Folly to misrepresent you and your Proceedings: I say, when I see this, I cannot avoid shewing that just Resentment and Indignation which becomes an English Man and lover of his Country.

Your Honours must needs be sensible what we have done and suffered for it; we have born all the Miseries and Fatigues of War, with a Constancy, Courage, and Fidelity, equal to any in History, at the same time when we had near half of our Pay detained from us, and the other paid us in Tallies, which we were forced to sell at Twenty, Thirty, and sometimes Fifty *per Cent.* discount. One whole Campaign we served without any Pay at all, and not so much as repined at it; insomuch that many of us have spent our private Fortunes in the Publick Service, and have nothing left but Scars, and the Hopes of having our Arrears paid by Lands in *Ireland*. I mean not by this to complain of our Usage, for I very well know the Publick Necessities made it unavoidable; and I am ready again to spend a tattered Life in his Majesty's and my Country's Cause, tho without any Pay at all: But when our Interest does not come in competition with the Publick, but a few private Men, who by Rapine and Oppression have raised themselves on a sudden to great Estates, and like Mushrooms sprung up in a Night, then I may presume to say, Justice and Compassion both plead for us, and we hope your Honours will think us Objects of your tenderest Consideration.

We are very sensible if we lose this Fund, how little Probability there is of getting another, at a Time when the Nation is entering into the greatest, most just and necessary War that ever they undertook, and the utmost Taxes they can raise will hardly be sufficient to carry it on; and therefore we hope your Honours will not lessen that Security you have given us, when we have waited already so many Years for what we purchased with our Blood and Toil, have received no Inter-

rest for what was due to us, and even now are forced to sell our Debentures for half their Value. We think we have a sort of natural Right to these Forfeitures; they are but the Plunder of the Field, and of Right belong to the Conquerors. In the many Rebellions in this Kingdom, the forfeited Lands have been always divided amongst the Souldiers: Not only the *English* Constitution, but most of the Governments of *Europe* were built upon this Foundation, of dividing the Lands of the Conquered amongst the Conquerors; and from hence proceed all the Tenures remaining at this day.

But that I may detain your Honours no longer, I will come to the main Design of this Paper, which is to shew the Folly and ridiculous Falsity of an *Address*, or rather *Remonstrance* made to his Majesty against his People, and an Act that He himself has given his Royal Assent to.

I am amazed to hear some Men in this Country complain of favouring the Papists, when they know that since the Trustees came over, tho several of them have been tried, and the fullest Evidence given against them, yet not one has been convicted. The Managers here are so implacable against your Act, that they would rather their mortal Enemies should enjoy their Estates, than they should be applied to the benefit of the People of *England*, and to discharge those Debts that were contracted for their own Deliverance, of which I will give some Instances.

In *Michaelmas* Term 1699, *John Moore* Merchant was brought to his Trial in the *King's-Bench*, for having commanded a Company of Foot under the late King *James*; and tho there were eight Witnesses of undoubted Reputation swore it directly against him, and the Criminal scarcely denied it, insomuch that the Judges gave positive Directions to find him Guilty, yet by a Jury of the most considerable Citizens of *Dublin* (whereof some are Addressers) he was found *Not Guilty*.

In *Easter* Term 1701, Sir *Laurence Edmond* was brought to his Trial at the *Kings-Bench* Bar, by a Direction of the Trustees, for Foreign Treason: And the Facts plainly proved were, That the Prisoner was an Officer, and actually engaged against his Majesty's Forces at the Battel of in *Piedmont*. The Evidence was so plain, that the Judges directed the Jury to bring him in Guilty; but the Objection being made, that the Benefit of the Forfeiture would go to the Trustees, part of the Jury declared they would not find him Guilty: And a Gentleman of great Integrity and Worth being then on the Jury,

ry, and desperately ill, and declaring, tho he died, he would not give his Verdict, *Not Guilty*, it was contrived to withdraw a Juror; and so the Prisoner escaped.

Last Summer Assizes at *Cork*, *John Walsh* came on to his Trial, for commanding a Foot Company in the *Irish* Army. And tho ten Witnesses swore against him, and he was taken a Prisoner upon the Surrender of *Cork*, and the Direction of the Court was positively to find him Guilty, yet the Jury acquitted him.

There are multitudes of Instances of this Kind, too tedious to enumerate; therefore I shall only say in general, that the Country has found every Man not Guilty that has been tried by the Direction of the Trustees: But when our Managers were Jackals to the Grantees, and shared the Prey with them, then their Indignation ran so high against Popery, that the Methods of the Law, and the known Rules of Justice, might be transgressed to bring about the good Work of condemning Delinquent Acres. No Age nor Sex could be more exempt from their Sentence, than that of Fate. Mrs. *Levallin* an Infant of three Years old, must be outlaw'd for Foreign Treason. Mrs. *Lutterell* must be outlaw'd too, as soon as her Husband's Brother got a Grant of the Estate, out of which a small Portion was appointed for her Jointure. Mr. *Thomas Eustace* of the County of *Kildare*, who had submitted to his Majesty and the late Queen, and taken the Benefit of the Declaration promising Pardon, was notwithstanding Indicted: And altho he surrendered himself to the Sheriff on the Exigent, who thereupon returned a *Reddidit se*, yet he was afterwards Outlaw'd. The said Return being altered by Rule of Court, *Chamberlain* and others were committed to Prison, and by Threats and Durefs driven to sign a Petition that they might be outlaw'd. Thus like Beavers they gave the Hunters their Prey, and then they were sure the Pursuit would be staid.

I do confess the barbarous Treatment they met with from the *Irish* in general, and particularly in passing an Act in their pretended Parliament for attainting many thousand innocent Protestants, without respect to Age or Sex, will in some measure justify this Retaliation. But it's unaccountable that they can forget their Interest, and lay aside their innate Animosities to the *Irish*, rather than do Justice, when it is for the benefit of the only People upon Earth that do or can protect them.

The Second Article.

That the Improvers and poor Husbandmen, who by several Proclamations
B 2 *issued*

issued by your Majesty's Order, were encouraged and required to betake themselves to their Tillage, to repair the Desolation wrought by the War, and prevent a Famine, are by it deprived of all the Benefit of their Labours, and the Charges of their Improvements.

I should have wholly passed over and neglected this Article, as containing in it nothing either of Moment or Meaning, were it not that I thought it here a proper place to take notice to your Honours how little the Talents of these Gentlemen consist in Reasoning, and how much in Blundering, and to shew that they have not the least share or proportion of Memory left them to support or alleviate the gross inconsistency of their Inventions; they would not else have so soon forgot the Complaint they made in the very next preceding Paragraph, of the Papists being advantaged by this Act, and immediately they themselves insert this whole Article in their favour: for what else but Papists can be here possibly understood, since these Proclamations were issued by his Majesty, with respect only to such as had born Arms against him, among whom there were very few or no Protestants at all? These therefore were the only Persons, who after the Battel of the Boyne were encouraged by the Proclamations of *Finglass*, &c. to betake themselves to their Trades and Husbandry, within the Provinces and Limits reduced to his Majesty's Obedience. Now all these Tenants have the Benefit of those Proclamations secured to them by the Act it self; so that if we consider these their favourite Popish Tenants occupying the Lands belonging either to Protestants or forfeiting Persons, there is all the Provision imaginable made for their Security, so far are they from losing the Benefit of their Labours and Improvements, most falsely suggested, I might add ridiculously. If your Honours could possibly entertain a just and adequate Notion of what generally passes under the name of *Improvements* in this Kingdom, which comes so short of what is commonly understood by the same Word in *England*, as to amount to no more than putting their Lands into a condition of affording them only a bare and necessary Subsistence; your Honours will have suitable Idea's of them when you see the Improvements made by the Purchasers themselves upon their own Demeasnes, their Mansion-houses and Seats of Pleasure; which according to their own Bills given in by themselves to the Trustees (some part whereof consists of old Hats, Nails, Composts, Sparagras, and a multitude of such trifling Items) do not exceed, as I am told, 5500 l. notwithstanding the clamorous Outcries of Oppression and Injustice, where-with they deafned the Ears of the two last Parliaments upon this very account;

account; and I dare say these Lands are not really advanced one thousand Pounds in their intrinsic Value.

The Third Article.

That those who purchased under Patentees are generally Protestants, who in their dealing for those Estates acted agreeably to the then known and established Laws of these Kingdoms; Tho now by a Law made ex post Facto they find themselves in the Condition of forfeiting Persons.

This Article relates wholly to the Purchasers, who for a little real Money have bought a great Number of imaginary Titles from the Grantees: how far in this matter they have acted according to the establish'd Laws of their own Country I shall not here enquire, sure I am that they acted against the known and establish'd Laws of common Prudence and Discretion. That they have been notoriously guilty of the Breach of this Law I shall make no scruple to affirm; but how far they have knowingly trespassed against the Rules of good Manners, and submission to their Superiors, against the known and uncontested Maxims of Justice and Equity, by laying their Sacrilegious Hands upon the Sacred Treasury of the Publick, set apart and consecrated by so many Unanimous Votes and Solemn Addresses of the Commons of England, ratified and confirmed by his Majesty's most Gracious Answer and Royal Promises, I shall leave to your Honours to judge.

The Fourth Article.

That the ill Consequences of this Act and the Execution of it do not only affect the Purchasers of Forfeitures, but your Majesty's other Subjects who are wholly unconcerned in those Titles, and disquiet the whole Kingdom; for some of the Trustees having declared in Court their Opinion, that what Land soever they shall think fit to sell, it shall be never afterwards Controverted, whether that Land was the Estate of a forfeiting Person, and in Consequence of that vested in them by the Act, but that their Sales, whatsoever they are, are confirmed by the Act and past controul; Your Majesty's Subjects of this Kingdom are sensible that if this Opinion prevail, the whole Property of Ireland depends upon the Arbitrary Wills of a Majority of the Trustees.

In the foregoing Paragraph, tho they had insolently libelled your Honours, together with his Majesty and the Right Honourable the House of Lords, as guilty of Cruelty and Injustice, yet they must not stop there: for were a particular Inquiry made who were real sufferers by the Act, and the Execution of, it I dare say if you take out of the Number those whom the desire of an overreaching Bargain drew in to be Purchasers, there would not be found enough to fill a Stage-Coach from Chester. But Clamour is the Design, and Numbers must be the

the Instruments ; therefore by this Paragraph the whole Kingdom must be alarmed, the Consequences of the Act, and the Execution of it do not only affect the Purchasers of Forfeitures, but your Majesty's other Subjects, who are wholly unconcerned in these Titles, and disquiet the whole Kingdom. I now begin to guess at the Penman of this Libel, for there is a Gentleman who knows enough of the Law to see the danger of setting his Hand to such a Paper as this, and has pleaded his Station to excuse him from doing it : That this Gentleman is disquieted all the Judges of this Kingdom know full well, who have often heard him in Season and out of Season leave off declaiming for his Client, to Exclaim and Cry out very bitterly against the Act. None of the true Prophets of old, or the false ones of late did ever lift up their Voices higher against the Iniquity of old or new *Babylon*, than this Gentleman against the Tyranny, Oppression and Injustice of the Parliament of *England*. And he has got some few Followers who may be known by their squawling : But surely the whole Kingdom has no need to be disquieted ; yes he will have them so, for some of the Trustees having declared in Court their Opinion, *that what Land soever they shall think fit to sell shall never be controverted, whether that Land was the Estate of a Forfeiting Person, and in Consequence of that vested by them in the Act : But that their Sales, whatsoever they are, are Confirmed by the Act and past Controul.*

The words I am told were not spoken in Judicature, but upon this Occasion : The King's Solicitor being in the Court of Claims, officiously moved the Point, whether if Lands were sold by the Trustees, it could be made a Question afterwards in any other Court whether those Lands were vested in them, and so the Title of the Purchaser be liable to be defeated ; and he did then as often before deliver his Opinion Magisterially that the Sale was not Conclusive. Some of the Gentlemen on the Bench were astonished to see the King's Advocate prove a Council against the Publick ; and having Reason to believe that it was his design by such Speeches to render the Titles under the Act doubtful and hazardous, and so deter People from Purchasing, they read to him the Words of the Act to convince him to Demonstration that the Sales were binding. I am the more assured that the Reasons offered by the Trustees were convincing, since I see the matter revived again ; for as many of the Addressers as I am acquainted with are so angry with the Trustees for the sake of the Act, that they have no Reverence for their Authority, but out of fear of their Power : 'Tis plain then the Resentment of this Paragraph runs against the Act.

Could I obtain the favour, I would desire the Addressers to tell me
their

their reason ; Is it because the Powers given in this particular are unreasonable, or new ? They must be weaker much than I took them to be, if they can imagine the Parliament of *England* will take Peoples Money for Lands in *Ireland*, and leave it afterwards to them (*who once fancied these Lands their own*) to determine whether the Purchasers under the Act have a Right to them. If your Honours will be pleased to repeal the Clause here complain'd of, and redress this one Grievance, I'll answer for the Addressers that they will give up all the rest ; For I know them so well, they will not suffer the vesting Clause to do them any harm. The Wolves heretofore desired a Peace with the Sheep, and insisted but on one small Article, *viz.* that the Sheep should send away their Dogs. The Confirmation of the Sales is the Purchasers main Security ; this the wise Legislators were aware of, and have provided so well for it, that none but those whom avarice of their Neighbours Land, and an Ambition to lord it over all that are about them have blinded, can doubt of their Intention.

But since Providence has so framed things, that the most mischievous Creatures have least Cunning, and that these Addressers have thus betray'd their *weak Hopes*, your Honours will surely take the Hint from them to declare your sense in plainer words, if your Wisdom can find out any, for the Security, Quiet and Repose of the Purchasers. Full as large Powers were committed to the Commissioners who executed the Act of Settlement, and I believe it was never made a doubt whether they had Power to judg what Lands were vested. But there is a main difference between these two Acts as to the Addressers, for by the Act of Settlement they enjoy the Lands set out by the Parliament of *England* to their Ancestors ; by the Act of Resumption other Lands are taken from them, who either beg'd or bought them for an inconsiderable Price, from those who had at best but a precarious Title, and restored them to such who are to give the same valuable Considerations for them, that the Addressers Ancestors gave for theirs under the Act of Settlement.

But it must not be thought that Men of their profound Heads can be so angry without some Reason. Here comes a weighty one, *Your Majesty's Subjects of this Kingdom are sensible that if this Opinion prevail, the whole Property of Ireland depends upon the arbitrary Will of a Majority of the Trustees.* How sensible his Majesty's Subjects of *Ireland* are, will I hope appear to the World by better Proof than this Address ; but really I confess I don't understand what is meant by *Arbitrary Will*. Arbitrary Power is indeed to be understood, but the force of *Arbitrary* when added

ded to Will which is the same thing I cannot perceive; the Addressers will have a terrible Word, and they are not sure, but apply it as they will, it may do Execution, why not as well as *Teague's Gun* go off, whether charged or not? But it is a poor Task to criticize on an *Irish* Address, and yet if you take the Word (*Arbitrary*) out of this Sentence, no Sense will remain; for then no more is said, but that the Parliament has made the Trustees Judges of Mens Properties, and therefore all those Properties are subject to their Judgment. This is wonderfully surprizing, and enough to disquiet the whole Kingdom.

But tho they can't express themselves, they would be understood to mean, *That the Power of judging of Mens Properties being committed to the Trustees, Men are afraid that they are unsafe in their Possessions*: That this Act was necessary to be made, and this Power to be given by the Act, has been proved already. The Grievance then (if any) must be that these Gentlemen are made Trustees; my Acquaintance is but with few of them, and I knew not above three of them before I left *England*. But the Honourable Way of their being appointed makes me believe them as fit for that Trust as any can be; because I know not any Persons fitter to name them, than the Honourable Representatives of the People of *England*; and the Choice is justified beyond Exception, in that the Addressers (who are as vigilant as Envy) have not charged them with any Misbehaviour in particular, tho in many parts of this Address they complain of the Execution of the Act in general.

The Fifth Article.

That the Power given to the Trustees is so Arbitrary and Unlimited, That all Persons under Colour of Discoveries, or upon some other Pretences, are liable to be summoned to appear before them, and to attend their Pleasure.

The Addressers are not yet out of their Fright, for they say, *The Power given to the Trustees is so Arbitrary and Unlimited, that all Persons under Colour of Discoveries, or other Pretences, are liable to be summoned to appear before them, and to attend their Pleasure.* This Paragraph was added for Ornament, for it has the least weight in it of any thing I ever saw. Could any Men but these complain, that Commissioners appointed by Parliament to enquire into what would be industriously concealed, should have Power given them to compel People to answer proper Questions; and that a Court which is to judg upon Proof, should be authorized to summon Witnesses? This Power is necessarily incident to such a Commission, and would have been good by Implication.

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The Inquirer, and he from whom the Answer to the Enquiry is expected, are Relatives. These Gentlemen seem to me, to have copied the Bull of their Countrymen, who said his Mother was barren; but perhaps they mean the Hardship is, that Persons should appear before and attend them. This indeed would be a learned Debate, whether the Witnesses should go to the Court, or the Court go to the Witnesses? There is an excellent Precedent to this purpose to be found in the Argument of the Grave-Diggers in *Hamlet*. Your Honours may think this too ridiculous to be intended, yet (I am credibly informed) a late eminent Council dignified with more Titles than one, argued it solemnly at the *Kings-Bench-Bar*, That the Trustees had no Power to send for a Man out of Prison, because they might go to the Prison themselves, and the Goaler was bound by the Act to let them in. Now I find this Argument was framed at a Consultation, and I pretty well guess who sat President. Were it my Business to say any thing on behalf of the Trustees, I would thank the Addressers for this Paragraph; for there cannot be a greater Complement paid them, than after they have been executing the Act for near two Years, to complain of an unlimited Power given them by it, and not to show one Instance of their Abuse of that Power. But I am for my self and my poor suffering Brethren; so I'll go on to the next Paragraph.

The Sixth Article.

That this Act is a great Discouragement to Protestant Proprietors to lay out Money on Improvements, upon account of the Uncertainty of Title to Estates here, it being construed not only to subject Titles established by Judgments and Decrees of the Highest Courts of Law and Equity here to the Examination of the Trustees, but in express Terms defeats a Title confirmed by an Act of a Parliament, legally convened and held under your Majesty within this Kingdom.

If by this Article they did not wholly cast off and disown all manner of Subjection and Dependence upon *England*, they could not think it either matter of Wonder or Complaint, that the supreme Legislature should establish a Judicature, with Power to rehear and reexamine the Judgments and Decrees of any other Courts whatsoever, and not only such as were given or pronounced by Judges and ordinary Magistrates, but by an Act of Parliament it self, tho never so legally held and convened even in *England*, and much more in a dependent and subordinate Province. In answer therefore to that notable Suggestion concerning the Uncertainty of Titles, I shall only ask them

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whether they think it not a safer and better ascertained Title that is purchased under the highest Authority of an English Statute, than under the Grantees or an Act of an *Irish* Parliament? If this be a Point too intricate and knotty for their Cloudy Conceptions either to answer or comprehend, I shall leave it to their own Experience to convince them of their Folly.

The Seventh Article is answered before with the First.

The Eighth Article.

We are perswaded that the Parliament of England were in no sort apprised, either of the Hardship or dangerous Consequence of this Act, and are sensible that the whole Act is grounded upon Gross Misinformations given them concerning the Value of the Forfeitures, which were represented by the Persons intrusted with that Enquiry, to be at four times the value of what they will be found to amount to. We will not affirm that this was done wilfully, or to some private Ends: But we must say, and can make it plain beyond denial, that all Proofs offered to them in their Enquiries, tho never so plain and evident, were disregarded and rejected, when they tended to lessen the Value of the Forfeitures, and deprive them of a Handle for making their exorbitant Report.

This Article relating altogether to the Trustees, or rather to the former Commissioners of Inquiry, I waited on one of them, and shewed him this part of the Address, who assured me that there was not the least colour of Truth in this mighty Accusation; he told me the Methods the Commissioners took upon their former Inquiries, were to extract out of the several Grants and Inquisitions, the Denominations, and Quantities of the forfeited Lands, and then they threw them into Counties and Boroughs, and took a Circuit through the whole Kingdom, and examined on Oath to the Values of all the Lands within each Barony, and had all the Lands found by Inquisition and what past in Patent been forfeited, which were all valued and computed in the Report, he assured me they would have fully answered their utmost Valuation; and he gave me several instances of great quantities of Lands included in Grants, and not forfeited, or by this Act vested in the Trustees, particularly 13000 Acres were past in the Duke of York's Patent, and was no part of the private Estate or ever in possession; and that he believed near 100000 Acres might stand upon the same Foot, so that what Errors they committed were from matters of Record; and that after Deductions made for what is taken out of the Trust by Clauses in the Act, and by allowance of Claims, they could not even at this day make a better calculation of the Value of the forfeited Lands, than what is contained in that Exorbitant Report here complain'd of. The Addressers, said he, need not have boasted

boasted in the latter part of this Clause, *That they could make it plain beyond denial, that all Proofs offered to them in their Inquiries, tho never so plain and evident, were disregarded and rejected, when they tended to lessen the Value of the Forfeitures, and deprive them of a Handle for making their exorbitant Report.* 'Tis true, the Agents for the Grantees did bring in their several Rent-Rolls, and offer'd all the proofs they could to lessen the Forfeitures, *which were disregarded and rejected,* they chusing rather to rely on the Oaths of the Tertenants and a View of the Lands, than believe those whose Interest it was to deceive them ; and had such their Proofs prevailed, your Honours had indeed been imposed upon, for the Trustees generally speaking have let the Lands for about double the Rent these honest Agents brought them in at, and yet the Lands are generally thought to be much under-let at this day.

The Ninth Article.

And we must add, that the Expences to which this Kingdom hath already been put in Attendance upon the Trustees, with Council, Witnesses, in Fees to their Officers, &c. the Salaries of the Trustees themselves, and of near Relations to some of them, and other Persons put into Employments, with great Allowances under them, with other Charges, which the Act hath occasioned to this Kingdom, is cast up, will exceed the utmost that the Act even as now executed can produce : Such a Sum might without Grievance or Complaint have been laid equally on the Forfeitures in Ireland, and thereby the Publick might have received some Benefit, and this Kingdom not have groaned under a Burden, which nothing but the last Necessity forces her to complain of in this manner : something of this kind may yet be done, tho not near to what might have been, before the Country was so impoverisht by means of the Act.

This Article, like the last, relates only to the Trustees ; and therefore I shall only observe in a few words to your Honours, what occurs to me as a Person unconcerned, and very little acquainted with the executive Part of this Act. As to the Salaries of the Trustees and their Officers, I find they are all to be defrayed out of the Produce of the Forfeitures themselves, and therefore it is no less weakly than maliciously offered, as a grievance to the Nation, separate and distinct from the Act it self : for since the Revenues of the Forfeited Lands are to be disposed of to the use of the Publick, it is all one to Ireland which way or to what Persons they are distributed ; and as to the Fees paid to their Officers, I have been informed they are much more moderate than in any of the other Principal Courts of Record in this Kingdom ; neither do the Officers receive them to their own use, or of the Trustees, but they are as much returned upon account to the Publick as the Income of the For-

feited Estates. If the Salaries allow'd to their Officers should be thought greater than they well deserve, the Remedy will be very easy and obvious, since I find by the Act that their Mony is only advanced to them by way of Imprest: But it seems to me a feeble Effort of their Spleen and Envy, to accuse them of imploying a few of their Relations under them, and such who are no way defective either in Ability, Diligence, or Integrity, the want of which Qualifications ought to be the only Obstacles in matters of this Nature. It is therefore no surprize that a commendable and laudable Endeavour to provide for the Advancement of a near Relation, should be here represented as a Vice, since one of the chief Promoters of this Address has been so notorious for the neglect of his Duty in this particular, who by his Dexterity in managing the Forfeitures has advanced himself to a very considerable Estate, yet can scarcely find in his Heart to allow his own Father (to say nothing of his other Relations) so much as a comfortable Subsistence, he being obliged to sell Ale for his Livelihood.

I shall now proceed to consider the latter part of this Article, which seems to me so very extraordinary and unaccountable, that I know not whether it will more work upon and excite your Honours Laughter or Detestation; for their Insolence and Ignorance seem to be here outvying one another, and contending for the Superiority. They think fit to let your Honours know, that tho they would have formerly been content to suffer an equal Imposition to be laid upon the Forfeitures, which must without doubt have been in proportion only to the inconsiderable Values they had formerly returned to the Grantees, and most impudently imposed on his Majesty, your Honours must not now expect so favourable Terms of Composition with them; and that the Articles of Peace and amicable Agreement are now very much altered, since they have been so impoverish'd by means of the Act. Now would I fain see the Man in *England*, who does but consider that these Addressers are now no more concerned in the Propriety of these Estates, than the Forfeiting Persons themselves, who would not burst out into the utmost degree of Merriment, to see the pragmatistical Impertinence of this Proposal tendred to the King and Parliament by these Trinculo's, and fantastick Vice-Roys, these errant *Sancho Panzas*, and Squire-like Governours of their wild and enchanted Island.

How would *Democritus* laugh to see People bartering and driving a hard Bargain with the Parliament for what belongs entirely to themselves,

ſelves, accusing them of Severity, if not Injuſtice, for taking away ſo much of their own? It puts me in mind of a Story of a Highway-man that ſet up for a great deal of Conſcience; and as he and his Companion were riſing an unfortunate Traveller, he was ever and anon reproving his Companion for Hardſhips done to the Captive, and asked him if he had no Conſcience? At laſt when the Work was finiſhed, the poor deſpoiled Traveller addreſt himſelf to his courteous Robber for ſome ſmall Part of what was but very lately his own, to bear his Charges to his Journeys end. The good natur'd Thief readily complied, and held out a Hat to him filled with his own Spoils, and bad him take as much as he pleaſed: The poor Traveller ſurprized with the Favour, greedily thruſt both his Hands into the Hat, and drew them out laden with Money: Which as ſoon as the conſcientious Thief eſpied, he held up his Fiſt at him, and ſwore at him for a Rogue, and ſaid, Have you no more Conſcience? In what an unrighteous Age are we fallen, where a Parliament is ſo unconſcionable as to reſume ſo much of their own? But I ſhall now conſider the Conclusion of this Addreſs.

The Conclusion.

May it therefore pleaſe your Maſteſty to ſuffer us upon this Occaſion to aſſure your Maſteſty that your Proteſtant Subjects of this Kingdom are ſo ſenſible of the unexpreſſible Favours they have receiv'd from your Maſteſty, and of your tender Care of them, that nothing can ever ſhake their Faith and Duty to your Maſteſty; and that whatſoever the Malice of their Enemyſ may, for private Ends and ill Deſigns, ſuggeſt to the contrary, no Inducement whatſoever can prevail with them to endeavour to make, or ſo much as to wiſh themſelves independent of, or not ſubject to the Crown of England: And that none of your Maſteſty's Subjects of any of your Dominions will, upon all Occaſions, ſhow a more forward and ready Zeal to maintain and defend, againſt all Oppoſers whatſoever, your Maſteſty's Sacred Perſon and Government, the Proteſtant Religion, the Laws, Liberty, and the Rights of the Crown of England, than your Maſteſty's Proteſtant Subjects of Ireland.

This Paragraph is the laſt, and it muſt needs be ſo, for now the whole Plot is diſcovered; and the Penman got to the higheſt Pitch of Frontleſs Inſolence; the whole Aim of the Libel is clearly opened, and it is to inſinuate to his Maſteſty, That the Parliament is riſing the Prerogative, and ſtripping the Crown of its Rights, and to offer their

their Service to chastise them for so doing. But his Majesty is above such little Flatteries, and these half-witted Statesmen cannot fathom the Genius of a Hero. Indeed one would think that this Act and the Execution of it had so *disquieted* their Minds, that they had lost all manner of Understanding: Tho there is one thing in it falls out very luckily for them, which I dare say they did not think of; the Poverty and Misery which they represent in one Part of the Address, renders them so despicable, that they may hope by being so low, to escape the just Resentment of the Parliament; and the want of Understanding which appears through the whole is so great, that it will not be consistent with any Law to punish them. But who knows what may be done by the *Malice of those Enemies, who suggest, That they would endeavour to make themselves Independent of the Crown of England?* What fantastical Imaginations these poor Men have! Can any Rational Man believe, that the King, who from his Accession to the Crown has been the Spring, and has given the Motion to a great Confederacy entred into for the Liberty of *Europe*, could ever let down his Thoughts so low, as to consider whether these Addressers wish'd to be Independent of the Crown of *England?*

A Roman Senator, whose extraordinary Knowledg as well as Care of the Affairs of the Publick, made him known and eminent, was met in the Street by one whose Name and Face he was unacquainted with, and with much Importunity desired to give him a Hearing, while he cleared himself of a Misrepresentation made of him and his Actions, when he was in *Gaul*. The Senator replied, I protest Sir, I never so much as once heard that you had been in *Gaul*.

I should now leave off to trouble your Honours with the Insolence and Folly of these Addressers, but that I saw the Address when it came recommended to me with a Circulatory Letter, which was sent to all the Counties of *Ireland*, which I must crave leave to lay before your Honours, *viz.*

Dublin, Decemb. 23, 1701.

Gentlemen,

TIS the Opinion of our Friends in England, who have an Opportunity to make the best Judgment of Things, that if the King be rightly applied to, it may be in his Majesties Power to procure us a Relaxation of the Grievances, which the Act of Resumption has brought upon us. They therefore

fore have taken Care to meet frequently to consult of proper Methods, and have imparted their Thoughts to us. We have followed their Advice, and have made it our Business to have the Sense of the Nobility and Gentry here concerning the same Affair. The Result of all the Consultations both there and here, and our unanimous Opinion is, that the best and indeed only Way, is for all the Counties in this Kingdom to represent our Grievances, and implore his Majesties Favour and Assistance.

The Parchment enclosed, is the Tenour of all the Addresses that we have sent to other Places: That which we intreat from you, and our good Friends of your County (as we have from Worthy Gentlemen and true Lovers of their Country, in all other Counties of Ireland) is, That you will with all your Interest, recommend this Address at the next Quarter Sessions; the easiest and most concise Method will be to have it read publicly, and signed by the Justices of the Peace, Grand Jury, Clergy, Gentlemen and Freeholders of your County. When it is sent up hither (which pray do with all Expedition) due Care shall be taken to have it sent and presented to his Majesty by acceptable Hands; the Service you will do your Country, and the Obligations you will lay on the Protestants of this Kingdom, will be so great, that 'twill be needless to say by way of Incitement to you, that your Care in this Affair will greatly oblige,

Your Affectionate Friends and Servants.

Meath C. S.

Inchiquin.

Abercorn.

Blessington.

H. Titchborn.

Gus. Hamilton.

J. Davies.

Ed. Brasier.

R. Adaire.

J. Corry.

Jf. Advell.

Tho. Carr.

He. Tennison.

Tho. Burdett.

D. Brien.

E. Butler.

H. Davis.

Ja. Corry.

Ja. Topham.

Art. Shaen.

Jo. Dillon.

J. Ormsley.

H. Westenra.

Wm. Crow.

Jo. Davis.

Tho. Burdett.

Da. Bryen.

M. Bridges.

R. Johnson.

B. Townley.

A. Davis.

Ed. Wingfield.

B. Butler.

Tho. Ash.

Dav. Brightone.

Wm. Connolly.

M. Coghill.

S. Dopping.

C. Campbell.

D. Golborne.

Rd. Owen.

Jo. Winstanley.

Geo. Merefield.

Postscript. As soon as you have got this signed, let it be returned to Marmaduke Coghill and William Connolly Esquires, who will take care to transmit it to proper Persons in England to present it to the King.

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Who those Friends of theirs in *England* are, your Honours may easily find, and punish them too when found ; they do not appear (as I believe they will by the Model of them at this side of the Water) too little for your Resentment. The result of all their Considerations both there and here lie now before your Honours in this matchless Address. But the unanimous Opinion of the Gentlemen on this side of the Water, that all the Counties of *Ireland* should lay their Grievances open in the prescribed Form, is as ridiculous, as if all should complain they were Maritime or all Inland Counties ; for in some Counties not an Acre is forfeited, or any Man concerned in the Forfeitures, nor have they heard of the disquieting Doctrine in the 4th Article of the Address ; and I have been informed that in some Counties, the Promoters of it had not Interest enough to get it signed, and in others not so much as to get it proposed.

The rest of the Letter contains nothing but sweetning Words to inveigle Subscribers, such as *our good Friends of your Country*, that they who do this are *worthy Gentlemen and true Lovers of their Country*. The Subscribing is called *the Service you will do your Country*. If I was not resolved to the contrary, this would move me to Indignation, to see those Sacred Arguments prophaned to such impious uses. Is it service to your Country to endeavour to exempt it from the Legislature and Laws of *England* ; your Obedience to which is the small Return they expect for their expensive Protection and Preservation of you ? Are you good Friends to your Country, when in complaisance to a few inconsiderate Persons, enriched with the Spoils of the Publick, but fretted to Skin and Bone with the Disappointment of their Hopes of yet greater Acquisitions, you join with them in such petulant Resentments as may provoke the Power of *England* to forsake or punish it ? This is so gross, that but few can be imposed upon by it, and therefore I presage many a Skin of Parchment will be lost upon this Occasion.

The Postscript is short, but deserves a longer Remark than I can give it, I desire the Gentleman's leave to make a small Amendment ; instead of (*as soon as, &c.*) I would have it (*if you can get, &c.*) That will be more modest, and the Disappointment not cause so much Laughter : when it is signed it is to be sent to *M. C.* or *W. C.* who will take care to transmit it to proper Hands in *England*. One of those Gentlemen I don't know, but I guess his Name is made choice of to countenance the other, of whom if I did not make some Relation, several Expressions in this Paper might seem harsh and severe, but when compared with the Merits of the Man, must be judged tender

der and merciful ; and I shall the rather do it, that your Honours by knowing who promoted this Libel, may see the End aimed at by it, and the Motives to it : He is one, whom Fortnne in a frolicksom Mood has raised from the lowest of the People, to make him equal in Estate with the Peers of the Realm. When his Majesty obtained his Glorious Victory at the *Boyne*, this Man could not reckon of his own as many Pounds as he does Thousands now ; his yearly Expences have from that time exceeded his visible Acquisitions ; his manner of living was so profuse, that he got Followers, and was stiled Prince Conelly. Add, he has not only been adored by the Base and Vulgar, but he has been so honoured and caressed by Men of Station and Figure, that he has had the sawcy Haughtiness to insult one of his Majesties Judges of Assize on the Bench, and to tell him, *He should come that Circuit no more*. Nay, such Reverence is paid to Wealth (however gotten) that at the Hearing of a great Cause lately in the Court of *Chancery*, where a Debate arose in what County an Issue should be tried, the Event of which would dispose of a noble Estate ; one of the first within the Bar, signally ready to serve this Childless Man, told the Court, that he must except to about five Counties, because this Man was Agent in the Cause for the opposite Party, and had by his Merit justly procured to himself such Interest in those Countys, that his Clients could not with safety consent to have a Trial in any of them. What unhappy Speakers are Men that are passionate ; and how unlucky is a forced and unreasonable Complement ! 'Tis a new way of proving a Man's Merit, to say that where he is Agent in a Cause, he will use all his Interest to sway and corrupt a Jury. The Discreet and Upright gazed at this glittering Meteor, and admired from what undiscover'd Mine he had raised so much Riches : But now the Mystick Knot is untied, the Commissioners for enquiring into the Forfeitures opened the Scene, and the Trustees have set him in a true Light. When he had Power given him to sell an Estate, he took 2500*l.* for the Purchase, and would have but 2000*l.* mentioned in the Conveyance. These things are owned, and this is called *Experience in Business* ; but there is a much fouller Fact than this proved upon him, which I am persuaded he would own too, if the Fear of Punishment affected him no more than the Guilt does.

A miserable Wretch (*one Parker*) had a Claim for ten or eleven thousand Pounds before the Trustees, on the Estate of the late Earl of *Tyrconnel*. Upon the Hearing it appeared there was a forged Deed, a forged Will, a feigned Death and Burial, and indeed nothing real ;

in the whole Matter, but that there was such a Man as the Lord *Tyrconnel*; and there are the Lands claimed. This Claim was dismiss'd, *Parker* sentenced to pay the Penalty of Ten thousand Pounds, and the Witnesses ordered to be prosecuted; and they were accordingly afterward found guilty of Perjury. This was by all esteemed a bold Effort of Villany, and held to be too great to be contriv'd and carried on by that despicable Miscreant alone; some Abettors he must certainly have, but as yet no body could suspect who they were. A short while after an Accident threw *Parker's* Papers into the Hands of the Trustees, and so it was discovered that this Man solicited and carried on the Claim; and that the whole Benefit of it except three or four thousand Pounds was to accrue to him: this I was told appeared to the Trustees upon a private Examination, and that they came to a Resolution about it. But this Man insisting upon his Innocence, obtain'd of the Trustees a publick Hearing. The Day appointed for it came, and Crouds flocked to the Court, and the whole Country seemed as much concerned as if that Day's Tryal was to decide all the Rights and Properties of the People of *Ireland*. My Curiosity led me thither too, and I staid full twelve Hours whilst the Cause was in agitation: I am not able to sum up the Particulars of the Evidence; but upon the whole, out of many of his own and *Parker's* Letters, out of the Draughts of Deeds drawn by his dearest Friend, out of the Deeds executed by himself, and out of the forged Deeds and Wills it appeared as evident as Light. And the Trustees I am told were unanimously of Opinion, that he was Party and Privy to the Claim, and was to receive the greatest part of the Benefit of it if allow'd.

And now since the Labours of my Youth, and the Support of my Age were attempted to be taken from me, by such as I have lately described, I may be allow'd to be warm in the defence of it, and zealous in this Cause. When I speak of the Addressers, I mean not all that sign either the Address or Letter, for I have shewed before by what Means most of them were prevail'd upon; and much less would I be understood to intend all the Gentlemen of *Ireland*: When I use more general Expressions, I declare only against those whose Hands have been deep in the Publick Mony; and when called upon by a Parliament in *England* to give up only what is left of it, trump up a wild Fancy of their own, and draw in other innocent Persons to the same Opinion, stiling it for the Liberty of the Country, that the Parliament of *England* ought not to make Laws for them. If such Pretences

ces as these would hold, all Offenders would plead to the Jurisdiction of the Court that was to try them. *Ireland* is a Country that as well deserves Esteem as most in the World : The Clime is temperate, the Soil fruitful, and the Rivers commodious : Its Inhabitants, the Protestants (I speak it by experience) are diligent and laborious to get an Estate, and generous and genteel in the use of it. Their Address and Conversation is courteous and modest ; and upon the whole, both the Country and People are such as I would chuse, and I am fully resolv'd my Debentures shall procure me Lands for my own Tilling. It can't be thought then that any of the hard Expressions in this Paper should relate to them ; I mean none by it but those who have withdrawn their Allegiance to the Laws of *England*, by setting up the weak Doctrine of Independency ; the most considerable Part of the Nation having disclaimed such an absurd Opinion, by being humble Suitors to you, amidst your own weighty and immediate Concerns, to make Laws for them, once to declare the late King *James's* pretended Parliament here to be a Rebellious Assembly, and to restore Corporations to their Charters evicted from them by *Quo Warranto*, or otherwise : And at another time, that Papists should be incapable to sit in either House of Parliament, and that none but Protestants should be qualified for the Bench or Bar. This is a Country that every way deserves your tender Care, as being certain to improve under it, and which will repay with large Increase, whatever Cultivating is bestow'd upon it. I don't deny, but that the first Care of the Body Politick is due to the Heart and Vitals, but from thence the Aliment is to be distributed to the more remote Parts. I know your Justice is such, that you will make no Laws that shall seem burdensome to this Country ; but when it is either necessary, or the Conveniency evident under your Government, then we shall be safe and happy, and you powerful.

F I N I S.

